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Message Text

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SUBJECT: CARAMANLIS INTERVIEW IN LONDON TIMES

1. LONDON TIMES ON MARCH 18 CARRIES A SPECIAL 8-PAGE FEATURE SUPPLEMENT ON GREECE INCLUDING A VERY INTERESTING INTERVIEW BY ITS LOCAL CORRESPONDENT MARIO MODIANO, WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS. KATHIMERINI ON MARCH 19 REPRINTED SIGNIFICANT EXCERPTS FROM THIS INTERVIEW ON FRONTPAGE, WITH EMPHASIS ON PM'S REMARKS ON FOREIGN POLICY. AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS ALSO QUOTED EXTENSIVELY FROM THE PM'S TIMES INTERVIEW.

2. HIGHLIGHTS FROM KATHIMERINI ARTICLE OF SPECIAL INTEREST ARE AS FOLLOWS:
A. BALKANS--"THE OLD, NOTORIOUS SLAV MENACE DOES NOT EXIST TODAY., AT LEAST NOT IN THE FORM OF SOME GENERATIONS AGO, AS A DIRECT POLITICAL-MILITARY THREAT TO GREECE..." TODAY RELATIONS WITH MOST OF THE NORTHERN NEIGHBORS ARE EXCELLENT". HOWEVER, "GREECE MUST REMAIN ABSOLUTELY VIGILANT... BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE REGION ESPECIALLY IF YOU CONSIDER HOW EXTENSIVE OUR BORDERS ARE TO THE NORTH AND HOW EXPLOSIVE THE SITUATION REMAINS IN THE SOUTH, IN OUR PART OF THE MEDITERRANEAN."
B. TURKEY--"THERE ARE NO STATESMEN IN TURKEY WHO CAN SEE HOW VITAL IT IS ALSO FOR THEIR COUNTRY THAT GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS SHOULD BE GENUINELY CLOSE."
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C. INTERNAL POLITICAL OUTLOOK--"GREECE IS NOT PARTICULARLY

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EXPOSED TO THE DANGER OF A TAKEOVER BY 'BLACK OR RED
TOTALITARIANISM'. BY 1985 I SHOULD LIKE GREECE TO BE A
COUNTRY WITH A DEVELOPED ECONOMY, SOCIAL TRANQUILITY,
AND A WORLDWIDE CULTURAL APPEAL."
D. ANTI-AMERICANISM--"TAKE THE SO-CALLED ANTI-AMERICANISM
OF THE GREEKS. ACTUALLY IT IS DIRECTED AGAINST SPECIFIC ACTS
OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT DURING THE SEVEN YEARS AND AFTER.
BUT MOST GREEKS RECOGNIZE WITH GRATITUDE THE STAND OF THE
AMERICAN CONGRESS, AND THE AMERICAN PRESS AND THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE." "GREECE BELONGS TO THE WEST WITH WHICH IT HAS MULTIPLE
BONDS AND INTERESTS. BEING A SMALL COUNTRY GREECE CAN AFFORD
TO HAVE NO PREJUDICES..."
E. RELATIONS WITH EUROPE--"GREECE BELIEVES IN THE NEED FOR A
UNITED EUROPE..GREECE'S INTEGRATION IN A UNITED EUROPE WOULD GIVE
IT SECURITY AND SPARE ITS NEED TO BE DEPENDENT ON OTHERS."
KUBISCH

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